

REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN OF CROYDON
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1872.

Disbursements.

PAID FOR SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

District No. 1.	Daniel S. Bartlett,	\$102 03
" "	2. James W. Davis,	268 58
" "	3. Sullivan J. Brown,	155 62
" "	4. Daniel Rider, Jr.,	78 21
" "	5. Francis Dodge,	80 55
" "	6. Hubbard Barton,	46 67
" "	9. John Glynn,	25 87
" "	10. John S. Sanborn,	15 52
	Haynes & Rowell,	4 42
		<hr/> \$777 47
Paid State Tax,		\$1134 00
Paid County Tax,		699 41
		<hr/> \$1833 41
Paid Greeley Putney, drawing plank,		\$3 00
John Clark, for plank,		24 70
Alanson L. Bartlett, stringers for bridge,		4 50
Alanson L. Bartlett, plank for bridge,		11 00
Eugene Rowell, for breaking road March '70,		3 00
Freeto & Son, plank,		32 61
Epaphras Paul, plank and timber for bridge,		5 10
Warren R. Bartlett, plank and timber for bridge,		3 67
Warren R. Bartlett, work on road,		5 75
Cyrus K. Fletcher, for plank,		3 08
Paul Jacobs, work on road,		1 50
John Barker, work on road,		8 50
Gilman Stockwell, repairing mountain road,		15 50
Alonzo C. Crooker, work on road,		9 00
Ira Brailey, work on road,		9 00
Nathaniel E. Beers, work on road,		3 00
John M. Jacobs, work on road,		3 00
Henry C. Bartlett, work on road,		2 00
Stillman Putnam, for plank,		4 80
Andrew J. Sawyer, for drawing stringers,		3 00
Baldwin Humphrey, drawing stringers,		2 50
Kimball D. Barton, for plank,		75

Paid Ruel Durkee, for hewing stringers,	3 00	
Ruel Durkee, for repairing bridges,	8 00	
John Harding, for work on road,	1 00	
Reuben Cooper, 5 stringers for bridge,	20 00	
Reuben Cooper, plank for bridge,	7 64	
William Smith, work on road,	2 00	
Joshua A. Codman, plank,	1 67	
James Eastman, plank,	7 47	
James Eastman, work on road,	2 55	
Sylvester Rowell, work on road,	1 00	
A. P. Welcome, plank and timber for bridges,	40 71	
Lemuel P. Cooper, damage done his sheep by dogs, 1870,	10 00	
Ruel Durkee, work on road,	18 00	
John M. Jacobs, damage on road, and cost,	36 00	
Greeley Putney, damage on road,	75 00	
Referees in Putney case,	1 50	
George H. Elliot, damage on road,	25 00	
George N. Smith, damage on road,	20 00	
Marshall Putnam, work on roads,	5 50	
Daniel Stone, repairing road,	1 50	
Reuben Cooper, drawing plank from Grantham,	3 00	
Otis Cooper, keeping water trough on highway,	3 00	
Denison Humphrey, school-house tax 1871,	25 00	
Dr. Swett, for returning births and deaths,	75	
Dr. Sanborn, ditto,	2 00	
Williams Barton, posting school law,	4 00	
	<hr/>	\$484 25
Paid George Angell, for opening 4 graves,	\$8 00	
“ Warren S. Kempton, opening 5 graves,	10 00	
“ Marshall Putnam, opening 4 graves,	9 00	
	<hr/>	\$27 00

PAID FOR SUPPORT OF PAUPERS.

Paid Joseph Crooker, support W. S. Carroll one year, ending Jan. 25, 1872,	\$52 00	
David W. Rawson, support of Caroline Rawson one year ending March 12th, 1872,	208 00	
Nathaniel Nelson, support of Ellen Stockwell,	8 43	
Sophrana Stockwell, keeping Ellen Stockwell from Apr. 22d, 1871 to Mar. 17th, 1872, 47 weeks,	47 00	
Doctoring Ellen Stockwell,	4 00	
John Harding, supporting Lydia Harding one year, ending January 25, 1872,	78 00	
For support of Emeline Spooner and family,	76 73	
James Eastman, support of Lyman Ryder one year, ending January 25, 1872,	78 00	
Elias Powers, Elisha Partridge and Daniel Kenady, and Timothy G. Powers, sup- port of Rebecca Powers one year, end- ing January 25, 1872,	91 00	
Curtis Flowers, support of his father and mother, and funeral expenses,	125 00	
	<hr/>	\$768 16

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Charles Carroll, assessed in 1870,	\$3 12	
Martin Sherman, " "	1 93	
Reuben and Alvira Flowers, "	10 24	
Comings C. Winter, "	1 93	
W. W. Partridge, 1871,	4 00	
	<hr/>	\$21 22
Paid Ruel Durkee, services as Selectman,	\$35 00	
Wm. W. Ryder, " "	20 00	
Andrew J. Sawyer, " "	15 00	
Alonzo Allen, services as Town Clerk,	15 00	
O. C. Forehand, " Collector of Taxes,	25 00	
Williams Barton, " Sup. School Comm.	25 00	
	<hr/>	\$135 00
Paid Betsy Ames, interest on note,	\$12 00	
Nathaniel P. Stevens, interest on note,	12 00	
W. P. Partridge, interest on note,	6 00	
Reuben Cooper, interest on note,	20 00	
Caleb L. Barton, interest on note,	12 00	
Hial Flanders, interest on note,	27 00	
Adam Rand, interest on note,	36 00	
Edward H. Brown, interest on note,	18 00	
Lester Blanchard, interest on note,	21 00	
P. S. Blanchard, interest on note,	21 00	
Sarah Kidder, interest on note,	6 00	
Kimball Loverin, interest on note,	9 00	
Nathaniel Humphrey, interest on note,	6 00	
Austin P. Wilder, note and interest,	309 46	
Lester Blanchard, note and interest,	105 50	
For printing this Report,	14 00	
Ruel Durkee, for stationery and postage,	10 00	
Sidney C. Putnam, note and interest,	3291 30	
	<hr/>	\$3936 26

The Selectmen Have Credited the Town as Follows:

Rec'd of the County of Sullivan for the support
of the following paupers:

W. S. Carroll,	\$52 00
Lydia Harding,	78 00
Emeline Spooner's family,	76 73
Lyman Ryder,	78 00
Rebecca Powers,	91 00
Father and mother of Curtis Flowers,	125 00
	<hr/> \$500 73

By list of taxes assessed and delivered to the
Collector,

Literary fund,	\$4023 44
Savings Bank tax,	55 20
Interest on school notes,	251 54
Last year Selectmen,	61 88
Lester Blanchard,	4 46
Nathaniel P. Stevens,	350 00
	200 00
	<hr/> \$4946 52
Ruel Durkee,	2535 52
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\$7982 77

Total amount received,	\$7982 77
Total amount paid out,	7982 77

THE TOWN OWE

One note to Adam Rand of	\$600 00
One note to Caleb L. Barton of	200 00
One note to Edward H. Brown of	300 00
One note to Nathaniel Humphrey of	100 00
One note to W. P. Partridge of	100 00
One note to Kimball Loverin of	150 00
One note to Betsy Ames, of	200 00
One note to Reuben Cooper of	500 00
One note to Hial Flanders of	450 00
One note to Sarah Kidder of	100 00
One note to Lester Blanchard of	350 00
One note to P. S. Blanchard of	350 00
Two notes to N. P. Stevens of	400 00
One note to Ruel Durkee of	2535 52
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Leaving a balance against the Town of \$6335 52

Which is respectfully submitted,

RUEL DURKEE,	}	Selectmen of Croydon.
WILLIAM W. RYDER,		
ANDREW J. SAWYER,		

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Your Committee respectfully submits the following brief report of your schools, for the year ending, March 1st, 1872 :

I deem it unnecessary to enter into a detailed account of your schools in the several districts. I will make some general remarks in relation to them, and close with such suggestions as the subject presents, and its importance requires. The amount of progress in the different branches of learning, has been greater than any year since my connection with your schools as their Superintendent. This is due mainly to the increased amount of money expended for school purposes, giving us thereby more or longer terms of study.

Your teachers, the past year, have been without exception, well qualified to instruct in the studies pursued in their respective schools. Most of them brought to their labors experience in teaching, and all have manifested a laudable desire to improve the pupils under their charge. I will name or notice what might be considered an exception to the above statement. In District No. 3 the Winter Term was taught by Miss Ella McDaniel, an accomplished and devoted teacher. The school was unpleasant and unprofitable. The teacher left before the money was expended, dissatisfied and despondent, feeling that her labors had not been appreciated, or merited respect shown her. These unpleasant results were not produced through, nor by any fault of hers, but depended upon causes entirely beyond her control.

In District No. 1 the Winter Term was commenced by Miss Lois Brown. But sickness compelling her to leave, the term was finished by Miss Ann Fletcher. The remainder of the school was, all circumstances considered, unprofitable. I shall not attempt to locate the real blame in this matter. In the end it was probably mutual. In the beginning, if the District had earnestly desired, and labored for harmony, the scholars perfectly obedient and the teacher a little more considerate and patient, all would have ended well.

You have had the services of one male teacher, one term during the year. The cause which heretofore has prevented the employment of male teachers in your village schools is now removed, and the policy of still employing females to teach them, I consider unwise and wrong. The trouble and evil that occurred in Districts 1 and 3, the present winter might have been obviated by the superior discipline of the male instructor.

DEPARTMENT OF SCHOLARS.

I have found your scholars as a whole, studious, obedient and respectful. I don't know as I could name one thoroughly vicious scholar in town; not

one entirely beyond the influence of pleasant looks, and kind language. And those are truly and morally the only forces that should be used to establish order and harmony in our schools. Without wishing to make any unjust distinctions in the deportment of schools where all hold a respectable rank, still justice requires me to say that the scholars in Districts No. 4, 5 and 6, deserve especial praise for their respect for the teachers, attention to their studies, and their friendly intercourse with each other.

Last winter I introduced into your schools a new series of Reading Books. The Readers in use had been in your schools 14 years, and it really did seem to me that the time had arrived when a change should be made. For a year previous to their introduction I discussed the subject freely with parents and guardians. I heard no note of dissent; but when the books were introduced, one family in District No. 2, and nearly all in District No. 3, refused, very unceremoniously, to accept the change. The prosperity of the school in District No. 2, was seriously endangered, but soon the storm passed and quiet reigned again. In District No. 3 the real beauty and harmony of the school was destroyed. Language is too poor to express fully my amazement at this unheard-of, unprecedented action of the District. Had the parents been less hasty, and conferred with me upon the subject, the matter might have been arranged without detriment to the District. But, on the contrary, telling their children not to obey the teacher, if requested to read in the new book, was assuming unheard-of authority in the case. Respect for the wishes and reasonable requirements of the teacher, is a lesson that the parent cannot too strongly urge upon their children. When that bond is severed, all is chaos and misrule.

I trust that reflection will convince all the actors in the unhappy affair, that their course was at least unwise, and that they will take immediate steps to repair in part the injuries inflicted upon their District.

SPECIAL REMARKS.

I would again call your attention to school books and school-room apparatus. Your duties do not end when you have prepared a suitable room for your scholars. The school-room requires its appropriate furniture as well as your dwellings. Globes, Outline Maps, Mottoes, are all necessary. The comparatively new system of object teaching calls imperatively for Globes and Outline Maps.

Who will dare to estimate the influence an appropriate motto may have in awakening thought, encouraging self-reliance and giving finish to manly character.

The Desk of every teacher should be supplied with a copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. Your scholars should all be supplied with a copy of the school edition for immediate reference. It is impossible for scholars to make proper advancement in their studies, especially in the arts of reading and composition, without the dictionary. To be able to write well, speak well, and I might say *do* well, are the crowning merits of a *true* education.

History has nearly become an obsolete study in your schools. Why is this?

Where lies the fault? The error exists. I think committees, teachers and parents, should combine and remedy the evil immediately.

Some easy text book upon the philosophy or science of common things, or natural history, might be introduced with advantage into your schools. And now I wish to make a serious, solemn inquiry. Why is it that parents manifest such unwillingness to supply their scholars with suitable text books, and to furnish their school room with the necessary appliances? Is it the pecuniary expense? Is money more valuable than educated mind? Could money be invested in a better cause? These may seem to be idle questions, but how can I refrain from asking them? According to my experience, there is nothing for which people pay their money so grudgingly or unwillingly as for the objects specified.

In conclusion I will say that upon the proper maintenance of our common school system of instruction, and its universal enforcement, associated with morality and religion, depends the perpetuity of our free institutions. The causes that have weakened and destroyed other nations, will assuredly ruin our own, unless we thoroughly educate the coming generation in the means of National preservation. Let us act as a free and intelligent people should act, and educate our children according to our best means, and inspire their minds with a love of home, country and God.

WILLIAMS BARTON.

Table of Schools.

No. of District.		Terms—1 Summer 2 Winter.	NAMES OF TEACHERS.	Length in weeks.	Whole attendance.	Average attend'ce.	No. not attending.	No. in Reading.	No. in Spelling.	Penmanship.	Arithmetic.	Grammar.	Geography.	Wages of teachers.
1	1		Mary R. Hurd,	8	21	19	0	21	21	9	13	3	10	\$ 20
	2		Ann Fletcher,	9	24	22	0	24	24	12	17	5	2	30
	1		Hattie Fiske,	10	39	34	2	32	32	25	32	6	13	24
2			E. F. Mather,	8	34	26	7	34	34	23	24	8	4	24
	2		Edward R. Perkins,	13	40	35	12	36	40	30	33	8	11	52
3	1		Mary E. Sargent,	8	24	21	0	26	26	0	20	9	2	20
	2		Ella McDaniel,	6	26	22		10	26	6	19	9	2	28
4	2		Grace A. Sargent,	14	26	20	0	20	20	12	14	0	5	26
	1		Ella O. Hastings,	10	12	9	2	11	11	7	8	0	5	20
5	2		Carrie Barton,	12	14	12	4	14	14	12	12	3	2	32
6	1		Lois Brown,	10	10	8	2	11	11	4	0	1	2	22